

Amendments to the Specification

Please **amend** the specification beginning at line 4, page 8 as follows:

FIGS. ~~[[7A-7F]]~~ 7A-7F3 are a flowchart depicting an exemplary general process for implementing an alternate database engine according to certain embodiments of the present invention; and

Please **amend** the specification beginning at line 5, page 18 as follows:

FIGS. ~~[[7A-7F]]~~ 7A-7F3 depict a general process 700 for intercepting and executing database commands performed by the alternate database engine 500 of FIG. 5 in any of the various network configurations described with respect to FIGS. 1-4. The process 700 begins when a database command, such as a query, is submitted by a user to the database engine (step 701). The input query may be obtained in a transparent manner. That is, the user may not receive an indication that the query intended for the established database engine has been intercepted by the alternate database engine. In other embodiments, queries may be intercepted by batch submission or by providing direct access to the alternate database engine to a plurality of users.

Please **amend** the specification beginning at line 19, page 22 as follows:

Continuing now to ~~FIG. 7F~~ FIGS. 7F1-7F3, the alternate database engine determines whether the query is a SQL select (or functionally equivalent) statement (step 742) If so, the process 700 continues to step 743. Otherwise, the process 700 continues to step 749 further below.